Three Leaf Sumac Rhus trilobata

Height: 3'-6' Width: 3'-6'

(At Maturity)

Growth Rate: Fast
USDA Zone: 4–6
Bloom: Yellow
Time: March/April
Sun: Full/partial

Water:

Low



This is a very hardy shrub that is native to the Rocky Mountains. Its non showy flowers appear on the branch tip before the leaves in the spring. The fruit is a hairy, sticky, scarlet colored berry that is edible. Native Americans used the fruits as food, to make a flavored beverage, and for medicinal purposes. The leaves are divided into 3 shiny dark green leaflets, but in this situation leaves of three are not poisonous. This bush is sometimes referred to as skunk bush since when the leaves are crushed they have a foul smell. As is typical of all sumac it has dramatic fall color.

This shrub is very cold hardy and is drought resistant. It is also tolerant of a wide range of soil type and pH levels.